

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cell phone including radio receiver circuitry, a memory, a data capture system and a radiant-energy digital data transmission system, characterized in that the cell phone further includes a steganographic encoder that alters data captured by the data capture system in accordance with an encoding signal prior to [[its]] transmission by the data transmission system, wherein the steganographic encoder is adapted to generate an encoding signal that depends, at least in part, on information received by the radio receiver circuitry and stored in the memory.

2. (Previously Presented) The cell phone of claim 1 in which the data capture system captures audio and includes a microphone.

3. (Currently Amended) The cell phone of claim 1 in which the steganographic encoder operates is adapted to operate transparently to a user of the cell phone, wherein substantially all of the data captured by the data capture system and transmitted by the cell phone is steganographically encoded.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a cell phone, comprising:
receiving input information;
receiving data wirelessly sent from a remote transmitter;
steganographically encoding the input information to hide a plural-bit auxiliary code therein, the encoding depending, at least in part, on the received data; and
transmitting the steganographically-encoded information by wireless in a digital format.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 which includes:
receiving the input information in non-digital form;
expressing the received information in digital form; and
encoding the digital form of the input information.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 in which the input information is audio information.

7. (Currently Amended) The cell phone of claim 1 wherein the steganographic encoder ~~additively combines~~ **is adapted to combine** an overlay signal with the data captured by the data capture system.

8. (Currently Amended) The cell phone of claim 7 wherein **the steganographic encoder is adapted to generate an overlay signal that** ~~said overlay signal~~ is dependent both on **said the** plural-bit auxiliary code and on **said the** data captured by the data capture system.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein **said the** steganographic encoding includes ~~additively~~ combining an overlay signal with **said the** input information.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein **said the** overlay signal is dependent both on **said the** plural-bit auxiliary code and on **said the** input information.

11-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A cell phone including a data capture system and a radiant-energy transmission system, characterized in that the cell phone further includes a steganographic encoder that **modifies data captured by the data capture system in accordance with an encoding signal, to hide** ~~hides~~ a plural-bit auxiliary code within **the data captured by the data capture system** prior to ~~[[its]]~~ transmission by the data transmission system, **said the** steganographic encoder being ~~responsive~~ **adapted to generate an encoding signal that depends** - in part - ~~to the~~ **on dynamics of the** data in ~~which the hidden code is encoded~~.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The cell phone of claim 16 in which the steganographic encoder **is adapted to control controls the an** amplitude of the **encoded code encoding signal, in part,** in accordance with features **dynamics** of the data-in **which the hidden code is encoded.**

19. (Currently Amended) The cell phone of claim 16 **wherein the auxiliary code depends, in part, on data received from a remote station with which said cell phone wirelessly communicates further comprising wireless receiver circuitry that provides information to a memory, wherein the steganographic encoder is adapted to generate an encoding signal that depends, in part, on the information in the memory.**

20. (Currently Amended) A cell phone including a data capture system and a radiant-energy transmission system, characterized in that the cell phone further includes a steganographic encoder that hides a plural-bit auxiliary code within data captured by the data capture system prior to **[[its]]** transmission by the data transmission system, **said the** steganographic encoder **introducing being adapted to introduce** a pseudo-random signal to the data in which the hidden code is encoded.

21. (Currently Amended) A cell phone including a data capture system and a radiant-energy transmission system, characterized in that the cell phone further includes a steganographic encoder that hides a plural-bit auxiliary code within host data captured by the data capture system prior to **[[its]]** transmission by the data transmission system, **said the** host data comprising sample values, and **said the** steganographic encoder **serving being adapted** to increase certain of **said the** sample values and decrease others.

22. (Currently Amended) The cell phone of claim 21 wherein **the steganographic encoder is adapted to increase certain of the sample values between at least some of said increases are in the range of 7.5% [[to]] and 100%.**

23. (Currently Amended) The cell phone of claim 21 wherein the steganographic encoder is **responsive adapted to respond** to dynamics of the host data in **[[its]]** hiding of the plural-bit auxiliary code within **said the** host data.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a cell phone, comprising:
receiving sampled input information;
steganographically encoding the input information to hide a plural-bit auxiliary code therein; and
transmitting the steganographically-encoded information from **said the** cell phone in a digital format;
wherein **said the steganographically** encoding comprises – in a pseudo-random fashion - increasing the values of certain samples and decreasing the values of other samples, **said the** increasing and decreasing depending, in part, on dynamics of the sampled input information.

26. (New) The method of claim 4 that further includes wirelessly communicating an identifier from the cell phone, wherein said plural-bit auxiliary code is at least partially redundant with said identifier, so that at least part of said identifier is sent from the cell phone in two different manners.

27. (New) The method of claim 4 wherein said plural-bit auxiliary code comprises an identifier uniquely identifying the cell phone, rather than identifying the input information or a user of cell phone.

28. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the steganographic encoder is adapted to generate an encoding signal that also depends – in part – on dynamics of the data